Kingdom

“David and Nathan: Psalm 32”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

* The story of David and Bathsheba
* The story of Nathan rebuking David and David’s Repentance Psalm 32
* The story of Solomon’s Wisdom in Ecclesiastes
* The story of Job

Series Theme Verse: “God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.” – Acts 13:22

Lesson Objective: For students to understand the story of David’s repentance from sin and our need to repent when we sin.

Lesson Passage: 2 Samuel 12; Psalm 32

Materials Needed: Bibles, white board, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan: Last week ended with the sin of David and his designation as “A Man After God’s Heart.” Today we see why David was called “A Man After God’s Heart,” and it is because of his repentance from sin.

Talking Points: 2 Samuel 12:1-25

* Who did God send to confront David about his sin? (The Prophet Nathan)
* Did Nathan jump right out there and confront David with his sin with Bathsheba? (No, He told a story to David)
* What was the story about? (There was a rich man and a poor man in a town. The rich man had many sheep and cattle. The poor man had only one little ewe that he treated like a member of the family. A traveler came to town and the rich man took the poor man’s ewe to cook for the traveler.)
* What was David’s response to Nathan’s story? (The rich man must die for doing such a horrible thing and showing no pity for the poor man)
* In hearing the response, what did Nathan say to David? (You are the rich man!)
* How is David like the rich man? (God had given him everything, but he took Bathsheba from Uriah, his faithful servant, and had Uriah murdered)
* What will be David’s punishment? (Violence will be a constant in his family, along with his wives being taken. His son that Bathsheba is going to have will die)
* When David hears all of this, the story and punishment, how does he respond? (Confesses his sin)
* Is he sincere? How do we know? (Nathan says the Lord has taken away his sin...forgiven his sin)
* Did the son of David and Bathsheba die? (Yes, even though David prayed and fasted for the child)
* How did David respond when he found out the child was dead? (He went back to his regular life. He knew he could not bring the child back to life. He also comforted Bathsheba.)
* Did David and Bathsheba have another child? (Yes, Solomon)
* What did the Lord name Solomon? (Jedidiah, “Loved by the Lord”)

The Story Retold: Psalm 32

* Have students look up Psalm 32
* David wrote Psalm 32 around the time of Nathan confronting him with his sin.
* We get a clearer picture into his confession of sin, the outpouring of his heart, and his joy at being forgiven.
* Have someone read Psalm 32 out loud to the group.
* Ask the students, what phrase stood out to you in the Psalm? Write the answers on the white board.
* Read the Psalm again and ask students if they know what David is feeling? Have they ever felt the way David does? Sin is a common problem, so we all have these experiences, but how we respond to God in our times of sin determines if we are “Men and Women after God’s Heart.”

The Story and Me:

* Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
* Have the students read the verse together.
* Explain to students that God wants us to follow God, even though it might seem difficult.
* When we mess up and sin, we need to turn to God and ask forgiveness. David gives us an example of following God, even when we feel like we have strayed too far from God’s love.
* Give students an example of how you seek God’s guidance in times when you feel farthest from God.
* Let students sit in a circle and say the verse one word at a time around the circle.
* Do this several times, helping them learn the verse.